

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are all the claims pending in the application.

The present amendment is in response to the first Office Action mailed on June 12, 2003. Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks. The above amendment are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action.

Claims 16, 21, 28 and 29 are amended. All the changes are made for purposes of clarification and, specifically, in order to address the issues raised in Examiner's "Detailed Action" and "Reasons for Allowance". It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-29 as currently presented are in condition for allowance and hereby requests reconsideration. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

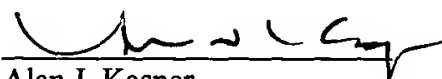
Respectfully submitted,

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